

FRESNO, CA – Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced his nominations to the United States Naval Academy and West Point. Costa nominated a total of five Valley students from Fresno and Kings County.

“We had some truly outstanding young men and women apply for an academy nomination this year,” said Costa. “These students have the opportunity to obtain a world class education, and then serve our nation as military officers after graduation. I am incredibly proud of all of them, and everyone who applied.”

Fresno County

John Peter Jennings, III – U.S. Naval Academy Nominee

John Jennings is a graduate of Coalinga High School and is a Presidential Scholar at West Hills College. Dr. Willard Clark Lewallen, President of West Hills Community College, Coalinga describes John as a “fine young man, who brings a positive attitude and enthusiasm to every activity, effort, and task in which he engages.” John is the son of John Jr. and Lori Jennings.

Kings County

Scott Steven Aquino – U.S. Naval Academy Nominee

Scott is a senior at Hanford West High School, and is extremely active in a variety of sports. He was the captain of the school’s varsity water polo team. Scott is considered a leader and role model by his peers for his ability to excel and succeed in athletics as well as in academics. He is the son of Adan and Morena Aquino.

Alexis Werner – U.S. Naval Academy Nominee

Alexis is currently a senior at Lemoore Union High School, and is ranked first academically in her class. Werner has maintained a GPA above 4.0 during her entire time at Lemoore Union High. She is on the varsity soccer team at Lemoore Union High School and extensively involved in clubs and activities. Werner is described as an “uber student” by her teachers. She is the daughter of Cynthia and Mark Stack.

Antonio Carlos Roa – U.S. Naval Academy Nominee

Antonio is a June 2008 graduate of Hanford West High School and currently attends the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS) in Newport, Rhode Island. While at Hanford West High School, Antonio was a dedicated leader in the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) and was extremely active in extracurricular activities. Antonio is the son of Carlos and Maria Roa.

Dustin Rodrigo Castillo – U.S. Naval Academy and West Point Academy Nominee

Dustin is currently a senior at Hanford High School. Dustin was the captain of Hanford High’s varsity water polo team, and also serves as his Senior Class President and as Vice President of Kings County Youth and Government. Dustin is considered a leader among his peers. He is the son of David and AnnaMarie Castillo.